

*File Soviet Ground Forces*  
**SECRET**

THE SECRETARY OF DEFENSE  
WASHINGTON

23 APR 1963

Dear John:

Thank you for your kind letter of April 8 in which you indicate that CIA will participate in a joint CIA-DIA effort to evaluate all available information on Soviet ground forces. I particularly appreciate your response because the question is so crucial to the decisions I will have to make during the next year. I am especially pleased that you have already established a joint panel and that preliminary effort is underway.

I have asked Mr. Hitch to designate a member of his staff to aid you in interpreting our requirements and to provide whatever other services my office can offer. I prefer, however, that he not be a member of the study group nor that he have any influence on its findings.

Thanking you in advance for the assistance you will be providing up, I remain

Sincerely,

BOB

Honorable John A. McCone  
Director, Central Intelligence  
Washington 25, D. C.

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cc: [REDACTED]

CIA

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